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Assistant Director for Operations

25 March 1948

Chief, FBI

State Department Meeting on the Jamming of the Voice of America  
Broadcasts in the Russian Language Beamed to the Far East.

1. A meeting was called on Thursday, March 18, 1948, at 1430 by the Director of the State Department's Office of Information and Education to discuss the jamming of the Voice of America broadcasts in Russian to the Far East. Representatives of the Army, Navy and State Departments and of the Federal Communications Commission and the FBI were present. [redacted] represented the FBI.

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2. The discussion was called to:

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- a. Present all available information on observations made on the jamming.
- b. Determine whether or not the jamming was deliberate.
- c. Determine what counter measures, if any, should be taken.
- d. Decide on diplomatic steps to be taken.

3. The decisions and actions arrived at on the points indicated above were, briefly:

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- a. State Department, Navy Department, FCC and FBI information all agreed on observations of the jamming.
- b. The fact that jamming covered only the VOUSA programs on its several frequencies indicated that it was deliberate.
- c. Navy radio bearings indicated that the jamming signals originated within a 100 mile radius of Kharkov, USSR.
- d. It was decided that to forestall a jamming war, no counter measures in the nature of jamming would be taken.
- e. The American Ambassador in Moscow would be instructed to request that the USSR take steps to eliminate the "Interference".
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4. In view of the fact that the USSR had an earlier listing than the United States on one broadcast frequency and listings, other than broadcast, on several other frequencies used by the Voice of America for Russian programs that are being jammed, there are some grounds

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for USSR disputation of American use of these frequencies. However, the USSR has not protested the American usage beyond requesting that an interference condition on one of these frequencies be eliminated. It is thought this problem bears little relation to the jamming action, but it might be used as an official excuse.

5. There are no international regulations prohibiting jamming.

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